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EXCISE

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INFO GPM 03 SC 01 RSC 01 USIA 12 H 02 NSC 10 L 03 INR 07 P 04 CIA 04
DOD 01 SP 02 SS 35 SAL 01 SAH 03 AID 30 RSR 01 /139 W

R 101130Z OCT 67
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8526
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CINCPAC
AMCONSUL DANANG
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 1/26/82
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 SAIGON 8122

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJECT: LOWER HOUSE ELECTIONS: DARLAC

REF: SAIGON 5926

1. REFTEL REPORTED NAMES AND OCCUPATIONS OF THE 28 PERSONS WHO INITIALLY FILED FOR THE LOWER HOUSE FROM DARLAC, WHERE THREE SEATS ARE AT STAKE, TWO VIETNAMESE AND ONE SOUTH VIETNAMESE MONTAGNARD. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE LOWER HOUSE ELECTION CAMPAIGN IN DARLAC FOLLOWS.

(1) 2. SIXTEEN VIETNAMESE REMAIN IN CONTENTION FOR THE TWO VIETNAMESE SEATS WHILE THE RACE FOR THE SVN MONTAGNARD

PAGE 2 RUMJIR 8122/1 C O N F I D E N T I A L
SEAT FINDS Y-WICK BUON YA, DARLAC'S INITIALLY DISQUALIFIED, REPORTEDLY FOR BEING DISMISSED FROM DARLAC PUBLIC HEALTH

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SERVICE AFTER HE JOINED FULRO IN 1864, BUT THE CENTRAL ELECTION COUNCIL REINSTATED HIS CANDIDACY. (SEE PARAGRAPH 5 Q BELOW).

3. FIVE PEOPLE WERE DISQUALIFIED:

TRAN HUU VAN, B. 1934 IN PLEIKU, SOLDIER, FAILED TO RECEIVE LEAVE;

VU NGOC THAM, B. 1935, BUI-CHI (NVN), SOLDIER, FAILED TO RECEIVE LEAVE;

NGUYEN HUU LIEN, B. 1924, NAM DINH (NVN), SOLDIER, FAILED TO RECEIVE LEAVE;

NGUYEN VAN CHI, B. 1928, PHUC YEN (NVN), SOLDIER, FAILED TO RECEIVE LEAVE;

VO DINH DANG, B. 1937, KHANH HOA, CIVIL SERVANT, FAILED TO RECEIVE LEAVE FROM HIS JOB.

4. SIX PEOPLE WITHDREW:

MAI NUU DI, B. 1933, KIEN HOA, SOLDIER;

TRUONG VAN SAU, 1940, BAC LIEU, CIVIL SERVANT;

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NGUYEN VAN TANG, 1040, BEN TRE, MEDICAL DOCTOR, ARVN LT., ASSIGNED 45TH REGIMENT, 23RD DIVISION;

NGUYEN DUC DUNG, 1925, HANOI (NVN), BUSINESSMAN, MEMBER LAC GIAO (BANMETHOUT) VILLAGE COUNCIL;

TRAN DINH CHAM, 1931, QUANG TRI, CIVIL SERVANT IN SAIGON;

LE XUAN HONG (NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE).

5. THOSE REMAINING IN THE RACE:

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A. VO VAN MAU, BORN 1927 IN NGHE AN (NCVN), ETHNIC VIETNAMESE, CATHOLIC, RESIDENT IN BANMETHUOT. MR MAU IS PRINCIPAL OF THE HUNG DUC PRIVATE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL IN BMT. MEMBER OF THE CATHOLIC CITIZENS BLOC. AT ONE TIME HE WAS A FIRST LIEUTENANT IN PRESIDENTIAL SECURITY UNIT. MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION OF NGHE AN, HA TINH, AND QUANG BINH PROVINCES (NVN). MAU IS A WELL KNOWN AND RESPECTED FIGURE IN BANMETHUOT, AND WILL PROBABLY MAKE A GOOD SHOWING PARTICULARLY AMONG CATHOLIC VOTERSS (A POTENT FORCE IN DARLAC POLITICS). HE IS AMONG THE BEST EDUCATED OF THE DARLAC CANDIDATES. LOCAL OBSERVERS REFER TO MAU AS THE "CATHOLIC CANDIDATE."

B. DO DAI DONG, BORN 1927 IN QUANG NGAI, ETHNIC VIET-

NAMESE, BUDDHIST, VNQDD MEMBER, RESISDENT IN BANMETHUOT. DONG HAS HAD ELEMENTARY EDUCATION AND IS AN OFFICIAL OF A PRIVATE COMPANY. HE WAS FORMERLY CHIEF OF THE THIEU-HNAH LAND DEVELOPMENT CENTER IN DARLAC. AS THE ONLY CANDIDATE FROM SOUTH CENTRAL VIETNAM, HE MIGHT HAVE APPEAL TO THE LARGE NUMBER OF VOTERS FROM QUANG NAM, QUANG NGAI AND BINH DINH WHO WERE RESETTLED IN DARLAC IN THE LATE 1950'S. AN UNVERIFIED REPORT SAYS THAT THE GVN CONSIDERS DONG AN "UNDESIRABLE CITIZEN" AND THAT THE ELECTION COMMITTEE MIGHT HAVE EXCLUDED HIM IF HIS POLICE DOSSIER HAD BEEN FORWARDED TO THE COMMITTEE ON TIME.

C. NGUYEN DINH XUYEN, BORN 1937 IN NGHE AN (NVN), ETHNIC VIETNAMESE, CATHOLIC, MEMBER OF CATHOLIC CITIZENS BLOC IN SAIGON. APPARENTLY RESIDENT IN SAIGON WORKING FOR A PRIVATE COMPANY. EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE NOT CURRENTLY KNOWN. NOT WELL KNOWN.

D. BUI DUONG CHI, BORN 1939 IN HANOI (NVN), ETHNIC VIETNAMESE, CATHOLIC A GRADUATE OF THE FACULTY OF PEDAGOGY IN SAIGON (REPORTEDLY FIRST IN HIS CLASS), HE IS A TEACHER AT BMT PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL. BEFORE HIS ADVANCED TRAINING, HE

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WORKED WITH INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY SERVICES (IVS) PROGRMS IN DARLAC. CHI IS WELL KNOWN IN BOTH CATHOLIC AND BUDDHIST

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YOUTH CIRCLES, APPEARS TO HAVE GENUINE LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL. b-1 ed
. HE SPEAKS EXCELLENT ENGLISH AND IS OFTEN USED AS AN INTERPRETER BY THE PROVINCE CHIEF. INFLUENCE WITH BUDDHIST YOUTH EVIDENT WHEN HE SUCCEEDED IN CONVINCING HIS STUDENTS THAT THE STRUGGLE MOVEMENT (APRIL 1966) WAS NOT THE APPROPRIATE WAY TO EXPRESS PROTESTS. CHI IS ONE OF THE MOST ATTRACTIVE CANDIDATES RUNNING IN DARLAC, BUT HIS YOUTH MAY BE A LIABILITY.

E. TRAN VUONG QUOI, BORN 1917 IN GO CONG (SVN), ETHNIC VIETNAMESE, BUDDHIST, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EDUCATION, A BUSINESSMAN RESIDENT IN BANMETHUOT AND NHA TRANG. QUOI HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE KHANH HOA PROVINCE COUNCIL. HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE PHO THAI GIA SENATE SLATE (#55) WHICH WAS REJECTED PRIOR TO THE RECENT CAMPAIGN.

F. PHAM VAN TRINH, BORN NAM DINH (NVN) IN 1923, ETHNIC VIETNAMESE, CATHOLIC, ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, RESIDENT INBMT. OCCUPATION:TAILOR. MEMBER AND SECRETARY OF DARLAC PROVINCIAL COUNCIL. ACTIVE IN CATHOLIC GREATER SOLIDARITY FORCES (LUC LUONG DAI DOAN KET) AND A MEMBER OF THE CATHOLIC CITIZENS BLOC. PAST EXPERIENCE AS A BUSINESSMAN AND CHIEF

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OF A LAND DEVELOPMENT CENTER.

G. TRAN THAI BINH, BORN 1934 IN KIEN HOA, ETHNIC VIETNAMESE, BUDDHIST, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EDUCATION, RESIDENT IN BANMETHUOT. BINH IS A MEMBER OF THE MALARIA ERADICATION TEAM IN DARLAC. NOW WELL KNOWN.

H. NGUYEN VAN CAN, BORN 1910 IN HUNG YEN (NVN), ETHNIC VIETNAMESE, BUDDHIST, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EDUCATION AND SERVICE

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SCHOOLS, RETIRED ARMY OFFICER AND VIETNAMESE VETERANS' LEGION CHIEF IN DARLAC. CAN IS CHAIRMAN OF THE DARLAC PROVINCIAL COUNCIL AND WAS THE ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE THIEU-KY SLATE DURING THE RECENT PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS. CKF WAS AN NCO IN THE FRENCH ARMY UNTIL 1950, WHEN HE WAS COMMISSIONED AS AN OFFICER IN THE FRENCH UNION FORCES. CONVERTED TO ARVN IN 1955 AND RETIRED IN 1958 ON REACHING RETIREMENT AGE. ELECTED TO PROVINCIAL COUNCIL IN 1965. CAN IS COLORLESS AND UNIMAGINATIVE, BUT WELL KNOWN IN DARLAC AND HAS SOME CHANCE OF WINNING, PWRTICULARLY IF HE CAN MAKE INROADS IN THE MILITARY VOTE.
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 SAIGON 8122

I. TRAN VINH, BORN 1941 IN BINH DUONG, ETHNIC VIETNAMESE, BUDDHIST, GRADUATE OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ADMINISTRATION (NIA) IN SAIGON. VINH IS PRESENTLY IN MILITARY SERVICE (RANK OF ASPIRANT) AND WAS MOST RECENTLY DEPUTY DISTRICA CHIEF IN DUC LAP (QUANG DUC). AMBUSHED BY THE VC WHILE CARRYING OUT HIS WIRK. HE HAS NEARLY RECOVERED FROM A BROKEN LET AT BMT MILITARY HOSPITAL.

J. LUU NGOC TUNG, BORN 1912 IN HA NAM (NVN), ETHNIC VIETNAMESE, BUDDHIST, BUSSHINESSMAN AND SMALL FARMER, FRENCH AND VIETNAMESE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION TUNG IS A FORMER MEMBER OF THE VNQDD, PRESENT AFFILIATION UNKNOWN. TUNG HAS THE REPUTATION FOR BEING CHRONICALLY DISATISFIED WITH THE GVM.

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K. TRUONG VAN THANH, BORN 1934 IN BAC LIEU (SVN), ETHNIC VIETNAMESE, BUDDHIST, ELEMENTARY EDUCATION,

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FARMER.

L. NGUYEN TIEN LONG, BORN 1923 IN HA TINH(NVN), ETHNIC VIETNAMESE, CATHOLIC, SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION (4 YEAR DIPLOMA). LONG IS A CIVIL SERVANT RESIDENT IN SAIGON AND IS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE CATHOLIC CITIZENS BLOC.

M. BUI XUAN HINH, BORN 1910 IN NINH BINH (NVN), ETHNIC VIETNAMESE, BUDDHIST, EDUCATION UNKNOWN, RESIDENT IN BANMETHUOT. HINH IS REPORTEDLY AFFILIATED WITH THE "FOR THE PEOPLE" (DUY DAN) GROUP. HE IS A FA...ER AND PRESENTLY IS A MEMBER OF THE DARLAC PROVINCIAL COUNCIL AND OF THE LAC GIAO VILLAGE COUNCIL (LAC GIAO IS THE VILLAGE ENCOMPASSING MOST OF METROPOLITAN BANMETHUOT). HE WAS REPORTEDLY A VILLAGE CHIEF UNDER THE FRENCH (PRESUMABLY IN NVN). HE HAS BEEN CHARACTERIZED BY NON-ADMIRERS AS "BACKWARD" (LAC HAU) AND A "GLORY LOVER" (HIEU DANH).

N. TRAN QUANG HOE, BORN 1930 IN HANOI (NVN), ETHNIC VIETNAMESE, BUDDHIST, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATES (5 YEARS), RESIDNET IN BANMETHUOT WHERE HE LISTS HIS PROFESSION AS

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"FARMER." HOE IS REPORTEDLY OWNER OF THE THONG NHAT NEWS-PAPER STAND (SPONSORED BY THE VN VETERANS ASSOCIATION). HIS POLITICAL AFFILIATION IS UNKNOWN. HE IS A THREE TIME LOSER IN POLITICS, HAVING RUN UNSUCCESSFULLY IN 1963 FOR THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, IN 1965 FOR THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL, AND IN 1967 FOR THE LAC GIAO (BANMETHUOT) VILLAGE COUNCIL. HOE WAS REPORTEDLY SUED BY THE VETERANS' ASSOCIATION BECAUSE HE ILLEGALLY TOOK OVER A NEWSSTAND OF THE ASSOCIATION IN DARLAC.

9. NGUYEN VAN CHI, BORN 1917 IN SAIGON, ETHNIC VIT-NAMESE, BUDDHIST, SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION (FRENCH BAC.). CHI IS THE DARLAC PROVINCE PRIMARY EDUCATION SERVICE CHIEF. NO KNOWN POLITICAL AFFILIATION. CHI IS WELL KNOWN AND BELIEVED TO BE WELL REGARDED. HE HAS PROVEN TO BE A COOPERA-TIVE AND ABLE COUNTERPART IN USAID-SUPPORTED EDUCATION PROGRAMS. AMERICAN ADVISORS HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED BY HIS

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EFFECTIVENESS AND APPARENT HONESTY (ALTHOUGH, SINCE HE ADMINISTERS FUNDS, THERE AR INEVITABLE UNVERIFIED REPORTS THAT HE HAS PROFITTED FROM THE SCHOOL BUILDING PROGRAM). ANOTHER UNVERIFIED RUMOR IS THAT HE SMOKES OPIUM. APPEARS HE WOULD BE A GOOD LEGISLATOR, MAY HAVE A GOOD CHANCE TO

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WIN, IN PART BECAUSE HE MAY BE ABLE TO COUNT ON THE SUPPORT OF DARLAC'S SCHOOLTEACHERS.

P. NGUYEN HUU XAO, BORN 1924 IN KIEN AN (NVN), ETHNIC VIETNAMESE, BUDDHIST, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EDUCATION (4 YEARS). XAO WAS AFFILIATED WITH THE NVQDD, AND IS A MEMBER OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, HAVING BEEN ELECTED FROM DARLAC IN SEPTEMBER 1966. HE HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN LOCAL POLITICS AS FORMER CHAIRMAN OF THE LAC GIAO (BMT) VILLAGE COUNCIL AND MEMBER OF THE LAC GIAO FINANCIAL COUNCIL. XAO FORMERLY HAD VNQDD SUPPORT, BUT HE REPORTEDLY HAS LOST IT AND IS RUNNING AS AN "INDIVIDUAL". HE HAS NOT DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF AS A MEMBER OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY AND HAS REPORTEDLY LOST SOME OF HIS SUPPORT BECAUSE THE "PEOPLE" ARE DISSATISFIED WITH HIS WORK. NON-SUPPORTERS ALSO REPORT HE BOUGHT VOTES IN 1966 AND IS PREPARED TO DO SO AGAIN. XAO IS UNLIKELY TO BE A REPEATER.

Q. Y-WICK BUON YA, BORN 1924 IN DARLAC. ETHNIC RHADE (PRINCIPAL HIGHLANDER MINORITY GROUP IN DARLAC), ANIMIST. A PUBLIC HEALTH TECHNICIAN BY TRAINING, Y-WICK WAS ELECTED TO THE CONSITTUENT ASSEMBLY IN 1966 IN AN INDIRECT ELECTION

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FOR THE HIGHLANDER SEAT. A MEMBER OF FULRO
Z ITS PREDECESSOR
GROUPS SINCE 1958, HE RECEIVED FULRO SUPPORT IN THE 1966 ELECTION AND SWAMPED THE OPPOSITION. Y-WICK WAS ALSO A DISTRICT CHIEF OF M'DRACK (A FORMER DISTRICT ON THE KHANH HOA-DARLAC BORDER) UNDER THE FRENCH. Y-WICK WAS THE

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ONLY HIGHLANDER FILING FOR THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTION IN DARLAC. THE DARLAC PROVINCIAL ELECTION COUNCIL REJECTED Y-WICK'S CANDIDACY, REPORTEDLY BECAUSE HE HAD BEEN DISMISSED FROM HIS POSITION IN THE DARLAC PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE AFTER JOINING FULRO IN 1964. Y-WICK HAD BEEN PERMITTED TO RUN IN 1966 FOR THE CA ELECTIONS BECAUSE HE WAS ONE OF SEVERAL MONTAGNARDS NOMINATED BY FULRO UNDER PROVISIONS OF SPECIAL LEGISLATION. AS THERE WAS NO SPECIAL LEGISLATION THIS YEAR, THE LOCAL ELECTION COUNCIL FELT OBLIGED TO REJECT HIS CANDIDACY. HOWEVER, HIS CASE WAS APPEALED TO SAIGON WHERE THE CENTRAL ELECTION COUNCIL, ACCEPTING A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE PROVINCIAL ELECTION COU WIL AND PROVINCE CHIEF, DECIDED TO ACCEPT HIS CANDIDACY. SAIGON'S FAVORABLE ACTION AVOIDED A SITUATION WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN MISUNDERSTOOD BY THE HIGLANDERS AND WOULD HAVE COMPLICATED GVN-FULRO RELA-.

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TIONS. Y-WICK LENT SUPPORT TO THE THIEU-KY TICKET BY ACTING AS OFFICIAL REPRESENTSBIVE IN DARLAC AND WILL PROBABL' COOPERATE WITH THE GVN IF THE LATTER MAINTAINS ITS CONCILIATORY POLICY TOWARD FULRO.

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